Message Text

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R 281627Z APR 76 FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3168 INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS MOSCOW 6651

E.O. 11652 N/A TAGS: OEXC, UR

SUBJECT: UNIVERSITY-TO-UNIVERSITY EXCHANGES

STATE FOR CU/EE, EUR/SOV LENINGRAD FOR P&C USIA FOR IEU

REF: MOSCOW 599, STATE 97741,

- 1. IREX VISITORS MATUSZEWSKI AND HOLM ACCOMPANIED BY EMOBOFF CALLED ON MOSCOW STATE UNIVERSITY (MGU) PRORECTOR TROPIN APRIL 28. DISCUSSION WAS INFORMAL AND FRIEDNLY AND DEVOTED LARGELY TO REMINISCING ABOUT MGU DELEGATION VISIT TO US.
- 2. IN COURSE OF DISCUSSINS, SUBJECT OF DIRECT EXCHANGES CAME UP. TROPIN MADE FOLLOWING POINTS:
- A. RE PROPOSAL RECEIVED FROM UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH, TROPIN SAID MHE AND MGU'S ANSWER. FROM MANNER IN WHICH HE SAID THIS, IMPLICATION WAS THAT PROPOSAL WAS REJECTED. EMBASSY WILL REQUEST OFFICIAL RESPONSE FROM MHE.
- B. MGU FEELS THAT EXCHANGES OF STUDENTS AND LECTURERS ALREADY FPROPOSED BY SUNY, MUCIA RESPECTIVELY WILL BE SUFFICIENT TO MEET MGU'S NEEDS FOR FORESEEABLE FUTURE. MGU NOT RPT NOT PREPARRED TO CONSIDER ADDITIONAL PROPOSALS AT THIS TIME UNTIL IT "ACQUIRES SOME EXPERIENCE" IN SUNY, MUCIA EXCHANGES. TROPIN SAID MGU, IN UNCLASSIFIED

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SPIRIT OF FIVE-YEAR PLAN, WISHED TO EMPHASIZE QUALITY IN CARRYING

OUT OF SMALLER NUMBER OF EXCHANGES RATHER THAN QUANTITY OF EXCHANGES AGREEMENTS.

- C. MGU PREPARED TO START SUNY, MUCIA EXCHANGES AS OF JUNURAYR 1, 1977, WHICH IS BEGINNING OF NEW FINANCIAL YEAR.
- 3. ON SUNY EXCHANGE PROPOSAL, MGU ASKS THAT BENEDICT ARRIVE FOR DISCUSSION OF PROPOSAL MAY 17 RPT 17. TROPIN ALSO SUGGESTED IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE IF BOYER'S PROPOSED VISIT (ARRIVE MAY 27-SIGN AGREEMENT MAY 28-DEPART MAY 29) BE LESS OF A WHIRLWIND NATURE.
- 4. MGU OFFICIALS NOTED THAT SOVIET STUDENTS AT SUNY WOULD BE EXPECT TO PAY FOR "SUBSIDIZED MEALS" IN SUNY DINING HALLS OUT OF \$135 MONTHLY STIPEND. MGU REQUESTS INFO ON COST OF AVERAGE MEAL, MONTHLY MEAL TICKET.
- 5. MGU ALSO REQUESTS FULL SET OF CATALOGS OF ALL SCHOOLS IN SUNY SYSTEM, IF POSSIBLE IN TIME FOR STUDY PRIOR TO BENEDICT'S ARRIVAL. STOESSEL

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